



Homeland  
Security

**U.S. COAST GUARD**



## Do I Need to Submit an “Application for Approval of Marine Event” to the U. S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port St. Louis?

According to Title 33, Part 100.15 of the Code of Federal Regulations:

“An individual or organization planning to hold a *regatta or marine parade* which, by its:

- Nature,
- Circumstances, or
- Location,

will introduce *extra or unusual hazards* to the safety of life on the *navigable waters of the United States*, **shall** submit an application to the Coast Guard.”

*Regatta or marine parade* means an organized water event of limited duration, which is conducted according to a prearranged schedule.

Examples of conditions, which are deemed to introduce *extra or unusual hazards* to the safety of life, include but are not limited to:

- An inherently hazardous competition,
- The customary presence of commercial or pleasure craft in the area,
- Any obstruction of navigable channel which may reasonably be expected to result, and
- The expected accumulation of spectator craft.

*Navigable waters of the United States* for events under the jurisdiction of the Captain of the Port St. Louis includes the navigable waters located in the following states:

- Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota, or North Dakota,
- And, certain parts of: Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Arkansas  
(Please call the Marine Event Permit Coordinator for questions on location applicability.)

Examples of events include but are not limited to: fireworks displays on or near waterways, shoot-outs, races, marine parades, water ski shows, air shows, excursions with numerous vessels, and the blessing of a fleet. An important note is that size is not a determining factor.

Furthermore, if you feel you are in doubt as to whether your event is required to have an application, submit an application. There are no submission fees associated with the Coast Guard Marine Event permit.

If an event is held which requires an approved marine event permit and the sponsor does not obtain the permit the Coast Guard will initiate civil enforcement action. The maximum civil penalty is \$6,500.00.

An application may be obtained on line at <http://www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/stlouis/> or by calling LTJG Erick Johnson, the Marine Event Permit Coordinator for the Captain of the St. Louis, at (314) 539-3091 ext. 3217.